

Kitewing 4.6 Green Flash/ Latest Rigging Techniques/ pix



<https://vimeo.com/210296703>

The 4.6 is the latest Kitewing with all the upgrades. The 4.6 is a stretch 3.0 utilizing a higher aspect ratio and weight saving frame geometry.

The sail is built from lightweight durable Dacron for stow on the frame convenience.

Sailing on the ice its tough to beat a 3.0 in decent puff as speeds pick up. If you like sailing a 3.0 I think you will like the 4.6. The 3.0 and 4.6 are designed to be efficient. The Y tubes have been moved ahead to make it easier to control the leading edge of the wing. This frame geometry change tested well with the 3.0.

The 4.6 wing is standard with X reflex strap and shock chord batt retainers.

4:1 batten tensioners retrofit: Pix worth a thousand words. These tensioners are easy to retrofit if you bother to buy the parts. Small chord locks work well with 2mm accessory chord. You are able to tension the sail fabric to batten fit. The result is a nice smooth wing.

Leech straps: Most folks are too aggressive with the straps. They work best when the outhaul is very relaxed or not being used at all. Tension the strap to dial out the loose leech at inboard panels either side of the boom.

Lacing reflex: I use 2mm accessory chord. I rivet or screw an additional cleat to my boom. Lacing the reflex makes it a lot easier to tune reflex. The extra grommets in all the new Kitewings allow for multiple rigging solutions. Experiment with your wing to find what works best for you.

The caveat: extra tuning tools like batten tensioners, leech straps and laced reflex make the wing slower to set up. This is why the wings come standard with a reflex strap and shock chord batten retainers.

2mm accessory chord works well to rig outhaul and reflex; it is light weight. The laced reflex vss multipart outhaul can be adjusted quickly and precisely.

Battens: I use two sets of battens. I have a very full set for slow power and a flatter set for speed. The center batten has reflex bent in. Its the first time I have tried this. Seems to work pretty well. Production models are likely to include a flat set of battens. A full set of battens can be purchased in addition.

I stow my sails on the frame a lot. Older mono wings can crack the window due to aggressive contact with the Y tube bracket when the sail is rolled on the frame. I have found I can slide the front tube a bit to hide the Y bracket inside the luff tube before I roll the sail.



The 2mm chord is tied in to the grommet. Push a loop through the grommet to rig additional purchase.





There is a knot at the bitter end of the chord which traps the chord lock. To tension the system, the chord lock should be snug and locked against the grommet. This system is not perfect but it is a nice cheap retrofit which works well.



Shows aggressive reflex with a full batten set.



Shows Y tube bracket tucked in to luff tube prior to rolling sail on frame.

Respectfully

Dicky Saltonstall
Kitewing Product Development

